



September 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PAID & VOLUNTEER STAFF OF RAILTOWN 1897 STATE HISTORIC PARK

Upcoming Events

September 6

Railtown Ladies Luncheon
Covers Ranch
Call Dottie @ 533-8483

September 3, 4, 5

Trains (steam on Saturday
And Sunday, diesel Monday
Entertainment Saturday and
Sunday 11am-2pm/ Sequoia
Monday 11am-2pm/ Jim
Mueller

September 17

Special Event: "Working on
the Railroad"

October 8

Apple Harvest Day

October 15

The Harvest Haunt Express

October 22

The Harvest Haunt Express
"Spooky Tales of the Round-
house"

October 29 & 30

The Harvest Haunt Express



Dottie Bolander!

Is retiring and moving to Grass Valley
This sudden news has caught all of us
by surprise. Is there time to bake a
cake celebrate with her? Fortunately
Linda Bramlette has arranged and
reserved the back room at Perko's on
Saturday, September 10th at 4:30pm.
All are invited to come and help send
Dottie away with all our well wishes
and share our gratefulness for all she's
done for Railtown 1897, since 1984.

Seating is limited, please RSVP to
Linda Bramlette @ 984-1251

Using A Theme to Make Your Tour More Memorable

A good theme conveys a message about our park that visitors will remember long after they leave Railtown 1897. The theme isn't a set of facts or subjects but a unifying idea that ties your program together. For instance, I had an evening program titled "Bats of Borrego and Beyond" when I worked at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. However, the theme was Bats are Misunderstood Mammals. I used the theme to overcome people's fear of bats, support bat conservation and ultimately support the park's mission of preservation. Fortunately, the Railtown 1897 Interpretive Master Plan (I.M.P.) has suggested themes for you and I to use for our programs. This month I will feature the I.M.P. theme: Building a Railroad.

Like many other short line railroads throughout California and the United States, the Sierra Railway had its genesis during a period of economic expansion into rural communities into the late 1800s and early 1900s.

That's a mouthful! The working theme for your program might be: "Short Line railways were common in many small communities across the country". Once you state that in your introduction (next page)



Volunteer Tour Guide Tom Hull leading a rather large tour group

.....you can tie it into your program. For instance, when you are outside the Roundhouse you can state, “ that although these short line roundhouses were common during the 1800’s through the 1920’s, today this roundhouse is the only remaining continuously used, short line, locomotive roundhouse”. When you are inside the roundhouse you can say, “Just like many short line railroads the Sierra railway had a variety of locomotives for different purposes as it expanded”. This helps you lead in to talking about the rolling stock.

Before you conclude your tour, use your theme to sum up your program. You might say, “As you can see short line railways were common in many communities like Jamestown. They were important to the growth of the nation in late 1800s.” You can even leave your audience with a question. For instance, “Can you think of how a short line railway helped your community grow?”

Finally, by using a theme in your program you are not just doing a show and tell type of tour. You are actually conveying a memorable story that reminds visitors of why Railtown 1897 is a California State Park.

(submitted by Jeri Zemon/ Park Interpretive Specialist)



The Wisconsin Great Northern

(Our volunteers being the dedicated train fans that they are, often journey to other parts of the country and world to enjoy excursion rides. This month we want to feature Brian & Karen McMahon's trip to Wisconsin)

“On our recent trip back to the family farm in Wisconsin, we took a short break and traveled up to Spooner, WI, and took a ride on the Great Northern Bed & Breakfast Train. Although there is a Standard Feature Car, we chose to ride in the Business Car and spend the night in their First Class Stateroom.

The Business Car was originally constructed for the Santa Fe Railroad by the Pullman Company in 1914. The car saw regular service between Los Angeles and Chicago and entertained many of the great names of the period including famous politicians, Presidents, and even Marilyn Monroe. In 1948, the car went to the Seaboard Air Line and was remodeled for executive service. The Business Car features polished mahogany throughout. Our personal stateroom (1 of 3) featured a $\frac{3}{4}$ size bed, mahogany dresser and closet, and a tiled bathroom complete with sink, toilet, and a private, albeit small, shower.

The Standard Room Car included a traditional upper and lower berth typical of 1950 vintage sleeping cars. Each double bedroom features a private enclosed bedroom with a sink and toilet and individual climate controls.

(continue on page 5)

“Working on the Railroad: A Celebration of Sierra Railway Workers”

(from Lisa DeLacy/ Museum Curator I)

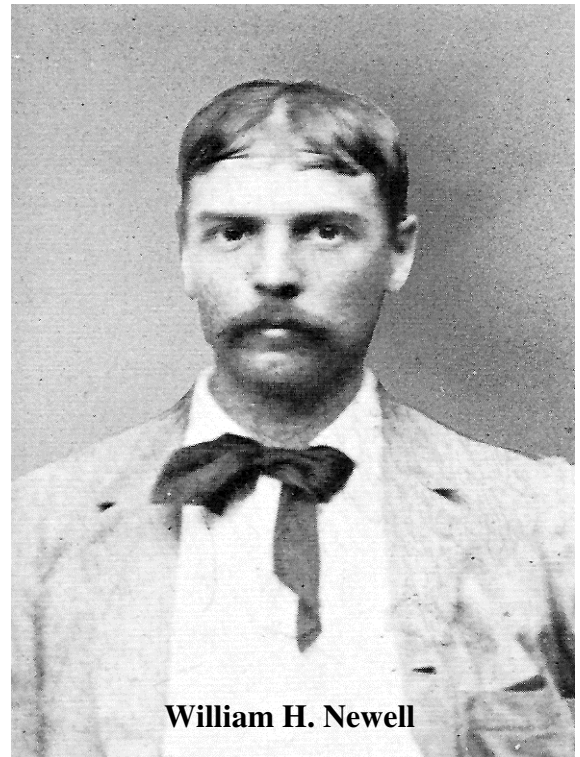
September 17th, 2016 from 10 am to 3 pm.

It is time once again for our 3rd annual celebration of the men, women, and families that built and maintained the Sierra Railway/Railroad. This event is a great opportunity to discover the stories of the lives that were intertwined with our historic site and to educate the public about the many different positions. What I like about this event is that we invite the public to come and educate us as well. This year we have founder Tom Bullock's grandson (also named Thomas Bullock) coming to the carriage room at noon to talk about Mr. Bullock and his life and many business ventures. He will share a few stories with us and take questions at the end of his talk. At 10:15, Dave Connery will speak about William Newell and his work for the Sierra as chief civil engineer, and the many other positions he held while living and working in Jamestown in the early 1900's. I will give a presentation at 11:30 that gives a brief overview of railroad work in general, with some focus on the Sierra from both the old days and how we work today. I urge everyone to come out, shake hands, tell friends, and take some time to appreciate how railroading shaped our country- one wrench (or pen, or wok) at a time!

10:15 a.m. – Historian Dave Connery will deliver a presentation about Chief Civil Engineer William H. Newell, father of Historian Dorothy Dean

11:30 a.m. – Park Curator Lisa DeLacy will deliver a presentation about the variety of occupations on the railroad

Noon – Thomas S. Bullock, grandson of the founder of the Sierra Railway, will speak about his grandfather as a businessman in the early 20th Century



William H. Newell

Photographs Needed

Larry Jensen, author of “*The Movie Railroads*”, is seeking photographs for his upcoming book devoted to the Sierra Railroad. The images he is looking for are “a perfectly lit color photo of #3 with the big smokestack from either the *Unforgiven*, the *Adventures of Brisco County Jr.*, or *Shaughnessy*”. He is hoping for a portrait of the engine at a ¾ angle. Also, he is looking for a good image of the Shay #2 when it was dressed up for *A Work of Giants*. If you have a photo that you think would work, bring it to Lisa and she can scan it for you and run it by Larry. You may end up being a published photographer! (please email: lisa.delacy@parks.ca.gov)



Photographs from Volunteer Photographer Kathy Syverson





(from page 2) The dividing wall between some of the adjacent bedrooms can be opened to create a suite sleeping four. The car features a single dressing room and a shower that guests can use in the morning.

Check-in for the Bed & Breakfast Train was between 5:00 pm and 5:30 pm. Once settled in, no-host cocktails were served to us along with hors d'oeuvres in our private lounge before departure. At 6:00 pm, the train began its journey through the scenic Wisconsin Northwoods. As the train meandered along the tracks, originally laid in 1880, the porter served our 4-course dinner meal including salad, followed shortly by soup, and then a choice of 5 entrees, and finally dessert. The next morning, breakfast included a hot meal including scrambled eggs, French toast, sausage, toast, and fruit. The food for both meals was delicious!

The train consisted of 7 cars including the business car, sleeper car, dance car with jukebox, a dining car, a lounge car, and a galley car. We were invited to ride up in the cab with the train engineer for a short distance. We were thrilled that the car we rode in had AC, as the weather was very hot and muggy!! All in all, it was a wonderful time!!

Brian & Karen McMahon





PO Box 1250
Jamestown, CA 95327
Return Service Requested

TO:



Depot Store- (209) 984-3953
Railtown Website- www.railtown1897.org
Volunteer Website- <http://railtown.team.parks.ca.gov/volunteers>
Railtown Blog- www.railtown1897.wordpress.com
Newsletter Editor— Dave.Rainwater@parks.ca.gov
Crew Caboose- (209) 984-0352



Railtown 1897 & The California State Railroad Museum Foundation thanks our following business members:

The Union Democrat, Black Oak Casino Resort, The Willow Steakhouse and Saloon, The National Hotel, The Jamestown Hotel, The Twain Harte Rotary, The Tuolumne County Economic Prosperity Council, Tourism Tactics, Pizza Plus, Buck's Auto Body, Yosemite Title, Sierra Nevada Communications, Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau, Edward Jones, Hurst Ranch, Robert E. Boyer Construction Inc., Kiwanis of Sonora, H & R Block, Kamps Propane, Promotion Club of Jamestown, Sonora Area Foundation, Sonora Rotary Club, US Bank, Wells Fargo Bank,



Railtown Paid and Volunteer Staff Contact Information

(all area codes are 209, except where noted)

Jackie Olavarria , Park Superintendent	TBA	
George Sapp , Railroad Restoration Lead Worker (DSLE)	774-6368	George.Sapp@parks.ca.gov
Lisa DeLacy , Museum Curator I (DER)	984-3119	Lisa.DeLacy@parks.ca.gov
Karen Kling , Park Interpretive Specialist	984-8703	Karen.Kling@parks.ca.gov
Jeri Zemon , Park Interpretive Specialist	984-8703	jeri.zemon@parks.ca.gov
Rob Buchanan , Park Maintenance Worker I	984-8702	Rob.Buchanan@parks.ca.gov
Danny Taylor , Park Maintenance Assistant	984-8702	Danny.Taylor@parks.ca.gov
Dave Rainwater , Senior Park Aide & Volunteer Coordinator	984-4408	Dave.Rainwater@parks.ca.gov
Lew Barnard , Fire Patrol Coordinator	916-343-2667	wa6esa@sbcglobal.net
Karen Ethier , Ticket Agent Coordinator	471-7525	kmethier@gmail.com
Ron White , Stationmaster Coordinator	551-7087	rbarryw@att.net

Newsletter Available in Alternative Format on Request